

Head Quarters 114th N.Y. Vols.
Camp Sheridan Va Mch 20th 1865

Dear Mother,

I rec'd your very kind letter last evening [blur - and?] was very glad to hear from you all, it finds me enjoying very good health except the rheumatism which I do not get much better from, our old doctor does not do much for it.

We still remain here in our same quiet camp and no prospects of a move as yet and hope there will be no need of it, for we are contented to stay, here although it is very dull, there is not over four or five hours inside of the Picket Lines.

I *recieved* Harrison's letter containing his photograph the day after I wrote to you I should answered it before but I wanted to get some pictures taken to send him one.

I wanted to go to Harpers Ferry to get some good photographs, but I could not get there, so I will go down to the depot to morrow if it is pleasant and get an *amprotype* taken, these artists that follow the army are very poor ones.

We got our pay last week, there was most seven months pay due us but we only got four months. We probably will not get paid again *untill* our time is out. I hope not, for I want some money when I go home, there will be eight months pay and seventy five dollars bounty due us then.

I am still in the Adjutant's Office do not have much to do at present. I like the Adjutant very much, he is a very fair man or boy rather for he is no older than myself, he used to be the Adjutant's clerk and was promoted to be Adjt. of the Regt. ~~that position~~. He is acquainted with one of Mr. Remington's(?) daughters, she used to attend the same school that he did at Cazenovia or DeRuyter.

It is raining quite hard to night we have had very nice weather for a few days past. I can imagine what kind of weather you are having up there, if I am not mistaken it is a little muddy. General Hancock is here in command since Gen. Sheridan went away, and he has issued some very foolish orders or at least in my estimation, he has issued an order prohibiting any private soldier from wearing boots, and will not allow us them us to wear any other than the shoes furnished by the government which are miserable things, almost every man in our Regt. has got new boots and they ~~have got to~~ can not wear them,

and now he had ordered a daily drill in heavy marching order which is with Knapsacks and every thing, which is something we never had to do before, it would have done very well for when we first came out but now the boys make a fuss.

Captain Searle & Lt. Allis are here in the office and they send their respects to all. Give my love to all.

Yours Affectionately,

J. Francis Brand

P.S.

Enclosed please find fifteen (15) Dollars, to pay the expenses of that box. I would send more but I shall need it before we get any more.

J. F. Brand